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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 PM-04

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SS-15 ACDA-07 ARA-06 TRSE-00 AF-08 EB-07 SAM-01 SAB-01

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R 101615Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3722

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

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AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

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AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

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CINCPAC

CINCEUR

USNMR SHAPE BELGIUM

DIA WASHDC

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CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AFB

CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG
CSAF WASHDC//AFINA/SSA
CNO WASHDC//OP-614
DA WASHDC//DAMI-FII
OSD/ISA/EUR WASHDC

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FOR POLADS

USIA FOR IOP, IBS, IPS, IEU

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PFOR, UR, US, XF, XA, CU, GY, TH
SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY - MAY 8-10

1. SUMMARY:

--HEAVY COVERAGE OF THE U.S. CENTERS ON DETENTE (PRO AND CON) AND THE PRIMARIES; ALSO FEATURED IS CRITICAL REACTION TO CONGRESSIONAL PLANS TO CREATE A CSCE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE AND TO SOME PROVISIONS OF THE CRANSTON-BAKER RESOLUTION (SEPTEL);
--COMMENT ON THE CONCLUSION OF THE SECRETARY'S AFRICA TRIP IS VERY LIGHT, BUT REPORTED DEMONSTRATIONS ENCOUNTERED ON HIS WAY HOME ARE STRESSED.

--PROLETARIAN INTERNATIONALISM RECEIVES KUDOS FROM CANADIAN CP CHIEF ON SAME PAGE OF PRAVDA ANNOUNCING AGREEMENT OF EUROPEAN COMMUNIST AND WORKERS' PARTIES TO CONVENE A CONFERENCE "SOON";

--LIGHT MIDDLE EAST COVERAGE REPORTS ELECTION OF SARKIS;

--PRAVDA DOES NOT SHED MUCH LIGHT ON RUAL CASTRO'S MEETING WITH BREZHNEV;

--KRASNAYA ZVEZDA REJECTS REPORTS THAT THERE ARE FOREIGN TROOPS IN GUYANA;

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--PRESIDENT MARCOS AND PM GANDHI WILL PAY OFFICIAL VISITS TO THE USSR IN MAY AND JUNE;

--SOVIET MILITARY WRITES ON THE OCCASION OF 31ST VE DAY (SEPTEL);

--A COMMENTARY ON THAILAND DEALS FAVORABLY WITH THE RTG'S DECISION TO HAVE ALL U.S. TROOPS WITHDRAWN AND LOOKS TOWARD DETENTE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. END SUMMARY.

2. U.S. IN ADDITION TO SOVIET REACTION TO THE CRANSTON-BAKER RESOLUTION AND OTHER RECENT CONGRESSIONAL ACTIONS (SEPTEL), PRAVDA'S INTERNATIONAL REVIEW MAY 8 PROPOSES THE FOLLOWING ANALYSIS ON THE STATE OF DETENTE IN THE U.S. AGAINST DETENTE ARE THOSE WHO MAKE MONEY ON DEFENSE SPENDING; FOR DETENTE IS THE "SUBSTANTIAL MAJORITY OF AMERICANS." PRAVDA SAYS THIS IS SHOWN BOTH BY RECENT POLLS AND "IN THEIR OWN WAY" BY PRIMARY RESULTS. PRAVDA PORTRAYS GOVERNOR CARTER AS PRO-DETENTE, QUOTING HIM AS SAYING, THAT IF HE IS ELECTED HE WILL "MOVE AWAY FROM CONFRONTATION BETWEEN BLOCS AND AWAY FROM A POSITION OF FORCE." PRAVDA AND A FURTHER COMMENTARY IN IZVESTIYA MAY 7 COMMENT ON THE PRESIDENT'S PRIMARY BATTLE AGAINST GOVERNOR REAGAN, ASKING WHETHER THE PRESIDENT IS LOSING ELECTORAL SUPPORT, AND CONTENDING THAT IN ORDER TO GAIN GROUND AGAINST HIS OPPONENT HE IS TAKING IT UPON HIMSELF TO MAKE "MANY OF THE SAME PROMISES MADE BY REAGAN." PRAVDA SAYS THIS TACTIC HAS NOT WORKED. THE WEEKEND PRESS, IN A SERIES OF ARTICLES SAYS THAT SECRETARY SIMON'S TRIP TO CHILE IS EVIDENCE OF U.S. "MORAL SUPPORT" FOR CHILE. PRAVDA MAY 8 REPORTS SOVIET PARTICIPANTS IN THE RECENT DARTMOUTH MEETING IN ARIZONA MET WITH SENATORS SCOTT AND MANSFIELD AND ALSO WITH MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE. SAME PAPER REPORTS THE PRESIDENT'S VETO OF THE MILITARY SALES BILL, ASSERTING THAT HE WAS OPPOSED TO THE \$9 BILLION SALES LIMIT AND THE CONGRESSIONAL RIGHT TO VETO SALES OVER \$25 MILLION. PRAVDA MAY 8 ALSO DESCRIBES CPUSA USE OF THE PRIMARY CAMPAIGN TO SPREAD THE TRUE GOSPEL. FINALLY, IN THE SINGLE MOST POSITIVE ARTICLE IN THE WEEKEND PRESS ON THE U.S., PRAVDA MAY 8 CARRIES A LENGTHY INTERVIEW WITH AVERILL HARRIMAN IN WASHINGTON. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INTERVIEW FOCUSES ON VE DAY THIRTY-ONE YEARS AGO, STRESSING THE PRECEDENT FOR SOVIET-U.S. COOPERATION SET DURING THE WARTIME EFFORT. PRAVDA SAYS THAT "IN CONTRAST TO SEVERAL POLITICIANS" THE GOVERNOR SEES THE NEED TO CONTINUE THIS COOPERATION, ESPECIALLY IN ARMS CONTROL AREAS, DESPITE IDEOLOGICAL DIFFERENCES. PRAVDA DOES GET A BIT SNIDE IN NOTING THAT THE GOVERNOR HAS NOT ALWAYS HELD SUCH "CLEAR VIEWS", BUT CLAIMS THAT "CHANGES ON THE INTERNATIONAL SCENE " HAVE CAUSED HIM TO REVIEW HIS OPINIONS.

3. AFRICA/SECRETARY'S TRIP. PRAVDA'S INTERNATIONAL WEEK MAY 9 REPLAYS BRIEFLY SEVERAL OF THE STANDARD CRITICISMS OF THE SECRETARY'S TRIP, AND CITES A COMMENTARY IN THE GHANAIAAN TIMES THAT THE GOAL OF THE VISIT WAS TO

"MISLEAD" AFRICAN SOCIETY REGARDING THE "TRUE TASKS" OF
U.S. AFRICAN POLICY. THE INTERNATIONAL WEEK COMMENTARY
ALSO REPORTS THE OPENING OF THE UNCTAD SESSION, BUT
REFRAINS FROM ANY COMMENT ON THE SECRETARY'S SPEECH.
IZVESTIYA MAY 7 CARRIES A VERY BRIEF TASS REPORT FROM
ATHENS THAT "MASSIVE PROTEST DEMONSTRATIONS" TOOK PLACE
ON CRETE IN CONNECTION WITH THE SECRETARY'S REFUELING
STOP. THE DEMONSTRATIONS REPORTEDLY WERE DIRECTED AT
U.S. AND NATO MILITARY BASES ON THE ISLAND. IZVESTIYA
MAY 9 REPORTS THAT THE SECRETARY'S STOP IN PARIS ALSO
PROVOKED DEMONSTRATIONS WHICH WERE ALLEGEDLY PROTESTING
U.S. "INTERFERENCE IN FRANCE'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS."
(ACCORDING TO AN ACCOMPANYING PRAVDA REPORT, COUVE DE
MURVILLE RAISED SIMILAR OBJECTIONS.) PRAVDA'S CARTOON
MAY 10 DEPICTS A CONVOY OF TRUCKS CARRYING ARMS FOR RHODESIA
PENETRATING A BARRIER BUILT FROM THE WORD "SANCTIONS."

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4. COMMUNIST AFFAIRS. PRAVDA MAY 8 REPORTS THE END OF THE LATEST DRAFTING SESSION IN BERLIN ON A EUROPEAN COMMUNIST PARTY CONFERENCE (ECPC) DOCUMENT. PRAVDA SAYS PARTICIPANTS AGREED TO CONVENE THE CONFERENCE "SOON" AND TO HOLD A FINAL DRAFTING SESSION THE FIRST PART OF JUNE. PRAVDA THE SAME DAY, AND ON THE SAME PAGE, QUOTES CANADIAN CP HEAD CASHTAN AT LENGTH ON HIS DEFENSE OF THE PRINCIPLES OF PROLETARIAN INTERNATIONALISM (P.I.) AND DICTATORSHIP OF THE PROLETARIAT, AND ON THE NEED FOR COMMUNIST PARTIES TO BALANCE INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL INTERESTS. CASHTAN ADDS THAT "P.I. WOULD BE AN EMPTY PHRASE WITHOUT RECOGNITION OF THE HISTORICAL ROLE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE SOVIET UNION." SAME PAGE ALSO QUJZES EXCERPTS FROM A TRYBUNA LUDA EDITORIAL PRAISING P.I. SOVIET LEADERSHIP LETTERS TO THE GDR AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA ON VE DAY ANNIVERSARY ALSO STRESS THE P.I. CONCEPT.

5. MIDDLE EAST. IN LIGHT COVERAGE, PRAVDA MAY 9 CARRIES A BRIEF TASS REPORT FROM BEIRUT THAT ELYAS SARKIS WAS ELECTED PRESIDENT OF LEBANON EVEN THOUGH "NATIONAL-PATRIOTIC FORCES" SUPPORTED THE CANDIDACY

OF RAYMOND EDDE. THE REPORT STATES THAT THE PARLIAMENTARY REPRESENTATIVES OF THESE "FORCES" DID NOT TAKE PART IN THE ELECTION OF SARKIS. PRAVDA'S INTERNATIONAL WEEK MAY 9 HITS AT ISRAELI "REPRESSIVE" POLICIES ON THE WEST BANK, DELIVERS SOME GLANCING BLOWS AT ISRAELI AND SIXTH FLEET "PROVOCATIVE" ACTIONS DIRECTED AT LEBANON, AND CONCLUDES WITH PRAISE FOR THE "WIDESPREAD" SUPPORT BEING RECEIVED BY MOSCOW'S STATEMENT ON THE MIDDLE EAST. IZVESTIYA MAY 9 CARRIES A COMMENTARY BY L. KORYAVIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WHICH, ALONG FAIRLY STANDARD LINES, REITERATES THE SALIENT POINTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST STATEMENT, AND ALSO CLAIMS THE DECLARATION IS RECEIVING SUPPORT FROM VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL QUARTERS. PRAVDA MAY 8 CARRIES A BRIEF TASS REPORT FROM CAIRO WHICH CITES AN ARTICLE IN THE MONTHLY JOURNAL AL-TALIA ATTACKING THE POLICY OF THE "OPEN DOOR". COMMENT. THE OVERALL THRUST OF THIS REPORT APPEARS DIRECTED LESS AT THE PRESENT EGYPTIAN LEADERSHIP THAN AT THE ALLEGED NEFARIOUS MACHINATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL MONOPOLIES. ALTHOUGH IT IS A SLENDER EVIDENTIARY REED, THIS REPORT COULD REFLECT A DOWNTURN IN THE SOVIET ANTI-SADAT PRESS CAMPAIGN. END COMMENT.

6. CUBA. PRAVDA'S INTERNATIONAL REVIEW NOTES BRIEFLY BREZHNEV'S RECEPTION OF RAUL CASTRO, AND REPORTS THAT IN ADDITION TO BILATERAL RELATIONS "PROBLEMS OF THE CONTEMPORARY INTERNATIONAL SITUATION WHICH ARE OF MUTUAL INTEREST" WERE DISCUSSED.

7. GUYANA. A KRASNAYA ZVEZDA COMMENTARY MAY 8 CRITICIZES U.S. AND BRAZILIAN NEWSPAPERS FOR "FABRICATIONS" ASSERTING THE PRESENCE OF "FOREIGN TROOPS" IN GUYANA, AND FOR CALLING THAT COUNTRY "A BEACHHEAD FOR COMMUNIST PENETRATION." THE COMMENTARY SAYS THIS CAMPAIGN IS ALL PART OF AN EFFORT BY THE U.S. TO EXPRESS ITS DISSATISFACTION WITH GUYANA'S INDEPENDENT POLICY, ESPECIALLY OVER ANGOLA, AND WARNS THAT IT HAS LED TO A DANGEROUS SITUATION IN WHICH BRAZILIAN TROOPS ARE BEING CONCENTRATED NEAR GUYANA'S BORDER.

8. ASIAN OFFICIAL VISITORS. PRAVDA MAY 9 FRONTPAGES AN ANNOUNCEMENT THAT INDIAN PM GANDHI WILL VISIT THE USSR DURING THE FIRST TEN DAYS OF JUNE. PRAVDA MAY 10 ANNOUNCES THAT PHILIPPINES PRESIDENT AND MRS. MARCOS WILL COME TO THE SOVIET UNION AT THE END OF MAY.

9. THAILAND. PRAVDA'S COMMENTATOR COLUMN MAY 10, BY IVAN SHCHEDROV, REPORTS FAVORABLY THE NEW THAI GOVERNMENT'S CONFIRMATION OF THE DECISION TO HAVE ALL U.S. FORCES WITHDRAWN BY

MID-YEAR. THE DECISION, SAYS
SHCHEDROV, SHOWS THE CHANGE WHICH HAS OCCURRED IN
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SOUTHEAST ASIA, AS MORE AND MORE LEADERS AND PEOPLES OF
THE REGION COME OUT FOR NEUTRALIZATION, FOR PEACE AND
SECURITY AND AGAINST "IMPERIALIST MILITARY BLOCS."
THE DEFEAT OF "AMERICAN IMPERIALISM" IN INDOCHINA OPENS
THE WAY TO REDUCED REGIONAL TENSIONS (I.E., DETENTE),
AND MANY SUPPORT THE SOVIET INITIATIVE FOR "PEACE AND
SECURITY IN ASIA THROUGH THE COLLECTIVE EFFORTS OF ALL
COUNTRIES OF THE REGION"--MOSCOW'S NEW FORMULA FOR ASIAN COLLECTIVE
SECURITY. THE COURSE IS OPPOSED, SAYS SHCHEDROV, BY
"IMPERIALIST CIRCLES, LOCAL REACTION AND PEKING'S
LEADERS." BUT "REALISTIC" OPINION FAVORS STRENGTHENED
FRIENDSHIP WITH "SOCIALIST" COUNTRIES, SHCHEDROV
CONCLUDES. COMMENT. THIS ARTICLE MAY BE A SOVIET
EFFORT TO BALANCE THE PORTIONS OF THE COMMUNIQUE AND
COMMENTARIES ON LAOTIAN LEADER KAYSONE'S RECENT VISIT
WHICH WERE IMPLICITLY CRITICAL OF THAILAND. STOESSEL

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